08 S cenic A ve. (4)
erkeley, Calif.

The Pacific

HOLBROOK LIBRARY
PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

5th Year — JANUARY, 1945 — 51 — No. 1

LAYMEN TO MEET

Once again the Laymen's Commission is to render valuable service to the churches by a School of Churchmanship. This will be held at Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, on Sunday, February 25, beginning at ten in the morning. It will close at 4:30 in the afternoon.

The speakers for the morning session will be President Arthur Cushman McGiffert of Pacific School of Religion; Rev. Stanley U. North of the Board of Home Missions of New York; Superintendent Harley H. Gill, Field Secretary William W. Meyer, and former moderator, Mr. George B. Martin. Mr. Peirce Coombes, former chairman of the Laymen's Commission, will have the keymen of the churches together at luncheon for conference.

In the afternoon there will be five discussion groups. Each one will be presided over by a layman. Dr. Stanley North will lead one group, on "A church planning its program in the light of the needs of its own field"; Mr. C. W. Brock of Berkeley will give church trustees and treasurers a great amount of valuable information about the business affairs of the churches; and Rev. Frank E. Carlson, former superintendent of the Oregon Conference and now comptroller of Pacific School of Religion, will lead the deacons in a better understanding of the tasks of their office. The Conference Committee on Christian Education, Rev. David Stowe, chairman, and the Committee on Young People's Work, Rev. Ralph V. Conard, chairman, will be responsible for the groups of laymen interested in those areas of church life. The closing address will be delivered by Rev. Clarence Reidenbach of Oakland.

Mr. Harold T. Avery, chairman of the Laymen's Commission; Mr. George B. Martin, and Mr. Barrett Coates are the committee on arrangements. Further details, including arrangements for dinner, will be announced in the February number of The Pacific.

Two of three cottages, with furniture, to house caretaker and faculty at Cazadero.

"FULLEST SUPPORT"

A conference grounds—for playing, working, living, worshipping together in a Christian environment! That is what I want for the young people of our Northern California Conference. That is what I am sure Cazadero will be for our young people,—a fine camp for their good times, retreats, and conferences. Because the Federation believes in our young people and recognizes their potential strength to our Conference, we will support Cazadero to the fullest.—Mrs. Scott Haymond, President, Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California.

From Vesper Hill, at Congregational Cazadero

From Vesper Hill, at Congregational Cazadero, tall trees, open spaces, excellent climate, and complete isolation make Cazadero Camp Grounds ideal.

Answering the demand of our churches, our young people, and our youth leaders, the Conference Board of Directors has purchased 800 acres of beautifully wooded land, not far from the village of Cazadero in Sonoma County, as a permanent campsite for our activities. Located 86 miles north of San Francisco in a northwesterly direction from Santa Rosa, it will be conveniently accessible to a large proportion of our churches when normal transportation is resumed. Redwoods, Douglas fir, oak, and madrone turn a large part of the land into a veritable forest, but with open spaces for camps, building sites, and recreation fields.

A number of usable buildings make it possible to begin our program of summer camps in 1945,—a large dormitory, a barn, a farm house, and three cottages; an abundant supply of spring water piped to the principal buildings; two live streams, in one of which temporary swimming facilities can be arranged; elevation 900 feet at the building site, with portions of the property hundreds of feet lower and other portions hundreds of feet higher; little or no snow in the winter, accessible the year around; comparative freedom from fogs in the summer; and a sufficient acreage for any foreseeable development we may wish to make.

This and other properties were investigated by the Committee on Young People's Work and a special committee and by a number of individuals. In order to secure it at all and to prepare for its use, the Conference Board of Directors purchased it outright, borrowing the money with which to pay for it. In addition to the purchase price, it will be necessary to spend in the neighborhood of $2000 for a road, to secure a ton-and-a-half truck, together with kitchen equipment, cots, bunks, and mattresses, to repair some roofs, to make provision for some sanitary facilities, and find and pay the salary of a campsite manager. All of this will total close to $25,000.

A special committee on finance was appointed, consisting of Rev. A. R. Boone, Lodi (chairman); Miss Eleanor Miles, Stockton; Mr. Stanley Matthew, Sacramento; Mrs. Scott Haymond, Berkeley; Mrs. E. V. Krick, San Francisco; Mr. Harold T. Avery, Oakland; Mr. C. R. Van Buskirk, Lodi; Rev. T. T. Giffen, Martinez; Rev. E. F. Ouellette, Petaluma; Rev. F. W. Gross, Lodi; Rev. Noel J. Breed, Stockton; Rev. John H. Gregg, Fresno; Mr. David H. Gill, Sacramento; Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, San Mateo, and Rev. Henry Hayden, Guerneville.

This committee decided to ask the churches of the Northern California Congregational Conference to set aside Sunday, February 11, as the day on which the whole project would be put before our people and an opportunity given to them to make their contributions, with the full hope and expectation that the necessary amount can be raised in cash before Easter and the Conference relieved of paying interest. Descriptive leaflets and pledge envelopes are being prepared in quantities for distribution, and a set of beautiful pictures, 8 by 10 inches, will be made available to each church. Full details in two or three mailings will be sent to pastors before the end of January.

The editor does not recall of ever seeing a single project that has met such unanimous and earnest interest and support. Our people, seemingly, have just been waiting, hoping, and praying for something like it. The Conference Board exercised faith, and the response of the people is justifying it.

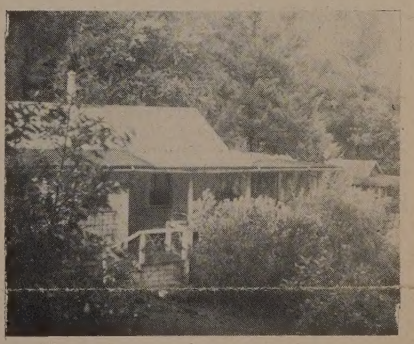
On January 7 Petaluma dedicated its rebuilt sanctuary. A complete transformation, it is beautiful and worshipful, one of the finest in our Conference. The pastor, Rev. E. F. Ouellette, and his people are rightfully happy.

Moderator Endorses Project

Northern California Congregationalists have for years felt the pressing need of having our own conference grounds. We have had to be satisfied with whatever open dates other conference grounds could give us, and we have had to change our conferences from one place to another because of lack of suitable dates. This situation is bound to get worse instead of better as other churches are finding that the summer conference is the big thing in their young people's work and will demand more time, and naturally their own groups will have first chance.

Now we have the opportunity of having our own grounds and are fortunate in finding one which, with a minimum of expense and effort, can be used this summer. The property with the buildings and equipment is certainly worth what we are paying for it, and all of us will be happy to know that our money is going into a permanent investment that will bring forth dividends in the good it will do in the years to come.

This property will not only be used for young people's conference grounds, but will be used for laymen's retreats, special church groups, and many other special programs. All of us interested in Congregationalism will be happy to know that our Conference Board has taken such a progressive step and I am sure it will receive the hearty and enthusiastic support of all the churches of Northern California.—David H. Gill, Conference Moderator.



Girls' dormitory, with large living room, ten bedrooms, and wide veranda on four sides.

New conference grounds! They belong to us! I will not call it pride, but ownership does something to a person or a group. Here is something to develop for a great purpose. When it is dedicated it must be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of young people in the kingdom of Christ. It furnishes both a starting point and a goal. It must be a place of joyous fellowship, of high inspiration, and of humble consecration. Here is a place for Pilgrim Fellowship to prove its Statement of Purpose, that individuals can live after the pattern of Jesus, that young people can live together in Christian fellowship, that they can play and work and worship and serve without respect to difference of race or color or nationality in the spirit of Christ. It is a challenge to all of us to make our conference grounds a bit of the kingdom of God on earth.—Rev. Ralph V. Conard, Chairman, Conference Committee on Young People's Work.

The Pacific

Established 1851

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscriptions, 25 cents in advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 1164 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco, 2.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1932.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building.

Harley H. Gill, Editor
Northern California
Congregational Headquarters
1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco, 2, Calif.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

OUR OWN

A Camp of our own! The very thrill of expectation should make all our spines tingle. Next summer we can have our own camps from June to September—family camps, Pilgrim Fellowship conferences, junior highs, young adults, work camps! In fall and winter we can have laymen's retreats, college groups, local church groups. We have almost limitless possibilities for future development, and a very usable and beautiful camp right now. Cazadero is a project in which every Congregationalist, young and old alike, will want to have a share.—Rev. William W. Meyer, Conference Field Secretary.

REV. R. B. CHERINGTON

One of the most charming and beloved personalities in our circle of ministers was taken from us when Reed B. Cherington breathed his last at his Palo Alto home on the morning of December 15 after a long period of illness. A large company of friends assembled for the funeral, which was conducted by his pastor, Rev. Augustine Jones.

Reed Cherington was born in India, where his father was a Methodist missionary. The family returned to this country in his infancy. He went to college at Ohio Wesleyan, and studied for the ministry at Yale and Pacific School of Religion, where he graduated in 1900. He held pastorates in Kenwood and Glen Ellen, Sunnyvale and Cupertino, and Porterville. At the outbreak of World War I he took officer training and served as Captain at Camp Lewis. He welcomed the invitation of a machine gun battalion to go with them as their chaplain, even though it involved a sacrifice of rank. He served at San Mihiel and through the bloody fighting in the Argonne, and later in a military hospital at Bordeaux. On his return in 1919 he and his devoted wife established their home in Palo Alto. For years he was on the staff of General Barrows, intensely interested in working out problems of military tactics, and he was also active in the American Legion. In the midst of all these things he organized our now flourishing church at San Carlos and was its pastor for five years. His latest service was as the first chaplain of the Palo Alto Veterans' Facility, and when he retired it was with the rank of Colonel.

In Palo Alto he was one of the most influential and warmly loved citizens. His convictions were strong and outspoken, and his genial and courageous personality left its stamp upon all who knew him. Keenly interested in our churches, he was registrar of the Santa Clara Association. He was one of the original and most faithful members of the group of ministers which calls itself the Santa Clara Prunes. He is survived by his wife, Maria Williams Cherington, who has herself been for many years a courageous invalid.

P. F. AT STOCKTON

First Congregational Church, Stockton, played host to the Pilgrim Fellowship Midwinter Conference, December 27-29, 1944. More than one hundred seventy-five young people were registered, coming from various churches throughout Northern California. The girls were housed in dormitories upstairs in the spacious church building, while the boys were accommodated downstairs and at the Y.M.C.A.

The central theme was "New Frontiers for Pilgrims." Chapel services were held every morning and evening in the beautiful sanctuary of the church, these being led by young people and ministers jointly.

The two and a half day session was highlighted by Pilgrim Fellowship Commission meetings, a service of dedication of Christian workers for the Million Hour Service Plan, a keynote address by Dr. James Muilenburg, a panel on the theme subject, in which Chaplain Verdette Walters, Rev. Robert W. Inglis and Mr. Roy Nichols participated, an N.C.P.F. business meeting, pictures of the national Pilgrim Fellowship Council at Lakeside, Ohio, and of our own summer conferences and state cabinet, ample recreation and "fun" singing, and the wonderful feeling of fellowship enjoyed by all conferees.

Rev. John H. Gregg served in the capacity of director; Rev. W. W. Meyer as Field Secretary; Mrs. Scott Haymond as dean of women; Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe as dean of men; Mr. Roy Nichols, song leader; Rev. Henry H. Hayden, recreation; Rev. G. Arthur Casaday, chaplain; and Rev. Noel J. Breed, host pastor. Other speakers and leaders included Superintendent Harley H. Gill, Rev. Robert James, Rev. A. R. Boone, Mrs. Virginia Stowe, Rev. John G. Dickey, Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, Rev. Eugene Sill, Rev. David Stowe, Rev. Stephen C. Peabody, and Rev. Alfred F. Schroeder.

Three two-hour sessions were devoted to meetings of the four Pilgrim Fellowship Commissions: Personal, Social, Missionary, and Interdenominational Action. Delegates chose the Commission with which they wanted to meet, and in these sessions plans for action were made. One of the most significant resolutions was made by the Social Action Commission: "Resolved, That the Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship welcomes the return of the Nisei, that as widely and as rapidly as possible our groups rise above racial barriers, and that we welcome the Nisei into our membership."

A high point of the conference was the surprise announcement of the purchase of the Cazadero conference grounds. Enthusiastic young people made individual pledges amounting to more than $650.00.

The Midwinter Conference culminated in an impressive communion service conducted by Rev. Noel J. Breed. Rev. William W. Meyer delivered the challenge, "Have I not a life to give?" All the young people participated in this service, after which the conference was adjourned.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship was thrilled when we heard at Midwinter that Cazadero was ours. This means a furtherment of Pilgrim Fellowship, as the camp will be used primarily by the youth. Because of this fact, the young people feel a definite responsibility toward its development. This means working, serving, and pledging, and we are willing and ready to do so.—Eleanor L. Miles, President, Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

"The Hunting Ground," that is the meaning of the Spanish word "Cazadero." It is not inappropriate. Cazadero will be our Congregational hunting ground, not for deer and wild hogs, although there are plenty of them in that region, but a hunting ground for the recreation of tired bodies; for the refreshment of mind; for the peace that passeth understanding; for closer acquaintanceship with God, the Creator of the glorious hills and streams and forests that abound there; for good fellowship with those of kindred mind; for truth as we seek to think God's thoughts after Him; for the finding and expressing of high and noble purposes; for the satisfactions that come with wholehearted dedication to the cause of Christ and the making real of His way among men,—Congregational Cazadero, our hunting ground, our very own.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

Congratulations, Conference Directors, for finding and recognizing the Cazadero campsite bargain, then borrowing the money and buying it. Our churches have been needing a thrilling "extra project" like Cazadero. We need a Conference Camp to unite and serve our various youth age groups as well as our church families and pastors. Cazadero is that Godsend where we can all invest our money now, and then develop it through the years with the labor of our own hands. Surely our churches will meet and pay back the $25,000 needed for Cazadero, and I predict it can and will be done by Easter.—Rev. A. R. Boone, Chairman, Committee to Finance Cazadero.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Through the generosity of the Women's Society of the Palo Alto Congregational Church and of numerous members and friends of that church, a "Palo Alto Gift" of One Thousand Dollars has been made to help establish a revolving scholarship loan fund. This fund is held by the Conference, and the first loan goes with the hearty good wishes of the donors to Mr. Dennis J. Bennett, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Joseph H. Bennett of Campbell. Dennis is already in attendance at the Chicago Theological Seminary. His family is established in the Congregational parsonage at Amboy, Illinois, where he serves the church and one other in the neighborhood on Sundays, and gives as much time as he can to the parishes in addition. Mrs. Dennis Bennett is doing a great deal of the work of the parishes, while her husband is obliged to be in Chicago.

PLYMOUTH HOUSE

Rev. David Stowe conducted a communion service, which he had written for the occasion, for the members of Plymouth House on New Year's eve. Chaplain Edward Reighard, former director, spoke on one evening. On Christmas eve the members of the house conducted a service for men stationed at Camp Knight. Twelve new members of Plymouth House are now participating in its activities.

EARL LECTURES

Paul Hutchinson of the Christian Century, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, president of the Federal Council, and Howard Thurman of Howard University, head the list of speakers at the Pastoral Conference. The dates will be March 6, 7 and 8. There will be special interest seminars on the City Church, Christian Rebuilding After the War, Preaching and Worship, Counseling, Religious Education, Visual Education, and Campus Christian Workers. Faculty members will have associated with them such speakers as our own Rev. Stanley U. North of New York and Rev. Erwin L. Shaver of Boston. Registration fee will be $1.00.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

The Laymen's Commission of Northern California is convinced that the purchase of a campsite at this time is essential to the effective carrying on of our young people's work. Some of our members have visited the Cazadero campsite personally, and the rest of us have carefully studied the information concerning it, and we consider this an exceptionally favorable site, ready to be put to immediate use, having unlimited future possibilities, and obtainable at a fraction of the cost of providing similar facilties on a new site.—Harold T. Avery, Charman, Laymen's Fellowship Commission of Northern California.

SCATTERED

A list of the names and addresses of the members of the Oakland Japanese Church shows that fifty are still in the Topaz relocation center, forty-four are in a score or more states, and ten are in the armed services. Rev. Norio Ozaki keeps in close touch with all by correspondence.

Dare We Fail

At the last meeting of the General Council our people voted "to assure a continuing increase in our ministry to war victims and services," and "a substantial and courageous increase in the ministry of our churches."

As the year 1945 opens, we cannot fail to realize that as the needs of war victims at home and abroad grow greater there must be a genuine advance in the work of our churches, if we are to be worthy of the name of Christians. Our pastors say that among uprooted families in war production areas, and our chaplain's report of our boys overseas, that the strain is harder for them to bear at this late stage after years of anxiety, privation, and heroic effort. This is also especially true of Londoners and of the European countries which are being opened up and where great want and suffering are being found. Perhaps no country illustrates this need for help better than China, which was the first battle front of the war and may be the last.

While it is true that we have already done a great deal to help through supplying money, food, clothing, medicines and trained workers, the end of the urgent necessity for our assistance is not yet in sight. In Northern California the percentage of churches giving to our Congregational-Christian fund for War Victims and Services in 1941-42 was 36 per cent; in 1943-44 it was 72 per cent. The per capita increase has been from .28 to .54. These statistics mean that even now 25 per cent of our churches and over 50 per cent of our people are not assisting in this work. In 1945 may we dedicate afresh our minds, hearts, and pocketbooks to meet the pressing demands made upon us and the priceless opportunities opened to us.—Miriam S. Converse.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

STOCKTON. For the 12th Christmas ve, a midnight candle-light service was eld. With the passing of the years it ows in beauty. The church building is busy place, the following organizations aking use of it: the High School Tri-Y lub of girls; the Red Cross blood bank, our days a month; Red Cross sewing each Wednesday; Boy Scouts on Thursday eve- ings; several groups of Camp Fire Girls se the club room each week; the Inter- ational Club, the Youth Council, and he Interracial Council have it as their enter. The weekday released-time Bible lasses for two schools meet in the church ach Monday. Besides all this, the church as host to the Pilgrim Fellowship Mid- vinter Conference, the entire group of oung people eating their meals in the hurch, most of them sleeping in the va- ious rooms fitted up as dormitories, and aving their public services and discus- ion groups in the many rooms which the uilding provides. Rev. Noel J. Breed is astor.

PALO ALTO. The every-member can- ass was carefully prepared by the trus- ees. Forty new names were upon the ist and the preliminary returns by mail were so extensive that any remaining house-to-house calls will be made after the turn of the year. The Christmas can- dlelight service was illuminated by 200 glowing tapers, the entire hour being filled with song, by the junior choir of 42 voices and the senior choir. The minis- ter, Rev. Augustine Jones, began his pas- torate five years ago Sunday, December 31, and preached on "The Five-Year Plan in Religion."

FERNDALE and LOLETA. Ferndale is always one of the leading churches in our Conference in its per capita benevolence giving, and this year is no exception. Un- der the leadership of Rev. Robert B. Whitaker Loleta is following in the foot- steps of its older sister church, Sunday School members and adults, alike, parti- cipating generously. Ferndale took care of two units for the Unit Plan, and both groups contributed to the War Victims and Service fund.

FRESNO, FIRST. At a pre-Christmas service of worship 39 new members were welcomed. A pageant with a cast of 30 people was given at the women's Christ- mas luncheon and repeated for the en- tire church. Miss Dorothea Hightower, who at one time was on the staff of the Plymouth Church, Oakland, and has been with the Institute of International Rela- tions, will be secretary and director of religious education beginning with the new year. Rev. John H. Gregg is pastor.

FRESNO, PILGRIM. Newsletter No. 11 was mailed in December to all mem- bers in the armed services. A Christmas package was sent to each one by the C. E. Society. A special Thanksgiving offering was sent to needy Armenians in Greece. Rev. H. A. Chakmakjian is pastor.

SANTA CRUZ. Three departments of the Sunday School had separate Christ- mas parties, and various groups of the Women's Club also celebrated the season. About 500 people attended the special musical service. Three children have been baptized. Rev. H. S. Mahood is pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, PARK PRESIDIO. This church has completed payment of $5000 on its building debt in 1944. Rev. Robert W. Moon, graduate of University of California and Boston School of The- ology, will assume the pastorate Febru- ary 1.

LODI, FIRST. Rev. R. R. Keithahn and his wife, Dr. Mildred Keithahn, mission- aries recently returned from India, and their three children were guests of Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Boone two days early in December. While there they held two meetings in the church and several cot- tage meetings. The children, aged 5, 10, and 12, spoke to the students of the High School and two grammar schools, where they were given a warm response as they told in perfect English of their experiences in India and then sang songs in Hindu. The church budget for 1945 for local and missionary work has been raised. For mis- sions, $1500 was asked and $1727 was actually pledged. Also about $500 had been contributed to the Service Men's Emergency Fund. Cash and many gifts of new and good used clothing were giv- en for Russian relief at the close of the Christmas vesper service. Fourteen chil- dren of the Church School presented a drama, "Broadcasting from Bethlehem."

PORTERVILLE. The Church Building Department reports the receipt of the final payment on the church and parson- age loan mortgages, truly a magnificent achievement for a church that faced a great disaster in the burning of its build- ing, rebuilt an improved plant, and then added a new parsonage, all within a very few years. At the annual Christmas can- dlelight vesper service people were turned away for lack of room. The offering for War Victims amounted to $86.00. Rev. Willis L. Goldsmith is pastor.

CROCKETT. There was full attendance at both services on Christmas Sunday, with excellent musical numbers by the choir under a new director, Miss Ellen Mertz of Oberlin College. Mrs. Philip Greisinger of Berkeley was guest speaker at the December women's meeting. It is hoped that a community released-time pro- gram of religious education can be set up. Rev. C. Virgil Carlson is pastor.

ANTIOCH. Two increases have been made in the church budget which are of interest, one for the salary of the pas- tor, Rev. Tom Watt, and the other for sending The Pacific to every family for the year. The Christmas offering was for War Relief, and benevolences will show a gain.

FRESNO, ZION. Ten new members were received at the yearly business meet- ing. An offering of $118.75 was made for War Victims and Services at the Christ- mas Eve service. Rev. J. N. Sauer is pas- tor.

OAKLAND, FIRST. Eight people join- ed the church on communion Sunday, and during the month eight children have been baptized. December 10, Captain Stuart C. Haskins, U.S.N.R., who had just returned from 20 months in the South Pacific, preached at the eleven o'clock service on "How these times may deepen our religious experience." Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Reidenbach entertained about 80 of the young people at the manse Sun- day evening, December 17. Christmas Sun- day the Church School presented a pag- eant, "The Prince of Peace," and preced- ing the eleven o'clock service the choir sang carols on the church steps.

WEAVERVILLE. The people of the church and town are happy in the coming of Rev. and Mrs. Forrest Knapp. The living room, dining room, kitchen and hall of the parsonage have been newly papered and painted. The refinishing of the church and redecorating of the parish house are about completed. A group of young workers deserve much credit. The choir will soon be resumed. Final pay- ment on an old Building Society mort- gage has been paid.

SALIDA. The church was beautifully decorated for the Bethany Circle Christ- mas party. A covered dish dinner was served, and the program closed with a candle-lighting service. The church has given $140.00 as benevolences this year, besides participating in the Christmas Fund, and contributing to the fund for War Victims and Services and the Unit Plan. Rev. Jessie G. Heath is pastor.

BENICIA. The members of the church provided each boy in the CYA Camp with a box of home made candy and cookies at Christmas. Christmas carols were given to the community by records on a public address system in the tower of the church. Five thousand dollars has been pledged on the new budget and there are still people to see. Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe is pastor.

SEBASTOPOL. This church has adopt- ed a changed budget policy which, it be- lieves, will add to the support of the church and its benevolences. A bequest of $500 has been received from the es- tate of David D. Sinclair, for 45 years an active member. Mr. James P. Senter is pastor.

SANGER. Rev. Richard Paul Uhlmann has resigned as pastor, to take effect April 1. He plans to go into the nursery busi- ness.

RIO VISTA. The Ladies' Aid Society gave a tea and bazaar at the church and in two hours had cleared $500. Sonia Shaw, the radio singer, former resident of Rio Vista, gave a large part of the musical program. The Sunday School Christmas program had an overflow at- tendance. Forty Congregational and Bap- tist young people combined to sing carols on Saturday night at 35 different homes. Seven young people of the Pilgrim Fel- lowship attended the Midwinter Confer- ence at Stockton. They were accompa- nied by the pastor, Rev. E. T. Sherman, and Miss Idella Church, counsellor.

REDWOOD CITY. Rev. Francis W. Russell, acting pastor, was speaker at the union New Year's service at the Baptist Church. The old year was ushered out by a candle-light communion service. All three women's organizations have elected officers for the year. The every-member canvass is going forward but not quite as favorably as a year ago. However, benev- olences will exceed $1,000.

SAN MATEO. Following an inspiring service of worship, during which the dea- cons placed the pledges for the new year on the altar and a litany of dedication was read, 24 telephone canvassers met for instruction to do the follow-up work. Results have justified the plan. Rev. Sid- ney Buckham conducted a Christmas eve midnight service at the U.S.O.

SACRAMENTO. Rev. Torrance Phelps announces that the church has made ar- rangement to have Rev. Carl Saenger as parish assistant, at least until June. Mr. Saenger has been pastor of the Evangeli- cal and Reformed Church at Woodland until recently. This will be one more step in acquaintanceship between our two denominations.

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON. A special offering for relief work was given at Christmas time amounting to $75. The church will hold its first annual meeting on January 10. Rev. Herbert Dimock is pastor.

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE. The plan announced in last month's Pacific works, according to the Rev. J. B. Orr, pastor, whereby the people read a given chapter in the Bible during the week in prepara- tion for the Sunday sermon.

ALTURAS. The financial situation of this church is steadily improving and the year ended encouragingly. Rev. and Mrs. R. D. Licklider have moved their house- hold goods to Alturas, which makes the parsonage more comfortable.

OAKLAND, PILGRIM. Aisle carpeting at a cost of $200 will soon be secured. The choir has grown and is furnishing splendid help. Rev. Byron E. Eshelman, pastor, is active in the Oakland Minis- terial Fellowship.

PARADISE. Rev. W. H. L. Marshall reports that the Christmas service was one of the finest in his ministerial ex- perience, with superb music, a crowded house, and the spirit of the people all that could be desired.

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

By REV. LUCIUS F. REED, Auburn, California

On my desk is a program for the celebration of V-E Day. A group of citizens prepared it expecting to use it before Christmas. But the New Year is here and victory seems so far away. Our heavy hearts cry out, How long, O Lord, how long? No answer comes to our cry. Yet, if we listen devoutly, we may hear a prophetic word saying, Speak to my people that they go forward. This is the word of vital religion in desperate times. We hear it and lift our heads, knowing that when we go forward it is not alone and in our own strength. Whatever the fortunes of war, religion's call is to go forward.

Shackleton and two companions sailed 600 miles in an open boat in Antarctic seas to a whaling village to get help for their marooned crew. They landed on the wrong side of the ice-covered island. So, when their perilous journey seemed at an end they had to cross over the ice cap. After this hazardous undertaking was over one of the men remarked, "I thought there were four of us." The other replied, "So did I." Shackleton said nothing, but recorded that he had the same impression. And in his book he expressed his gratitude to God who had been with him so often. So it is with men of faith when they undertake the all but impossible.

Men of faith are going forward knowing the Presence is with them. Theologians are thinking more profoundly. Leaders are mapping out daring lines of advance in the applications of Christian principles. Old walls of divisions are giving way. The New Year word for every Christian is the call to faith and heroism, GO FORWARD WITH GOD.

Pacific University
Forest Grove, Oregon
(21 Miles West of Portland, Ore.)
Congregational since 1841
Grants B.S., B.M., and B.A. degrees

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Miss Helen M. Perkins

Remember the change of day for the Annual Meeting—Wednesday, January 17, not Thursday.

READY FOR ANNUAL MEETING

There is a change in the date of our Annual Meeting which all our women are asked to note carefully. Instead of the usual third Thursday in January, it will be held this year on the preceding day, the third Wednesday. This change is necessary to enable our President to take a train that will get her to the meeting of State Presidents in Cleveland. Our meeting will be held in the Alameda Church, corner of Central and Chestnut streets. It will open at 10:00, not 10:30 as formerly. The ladies of the church will serve lunch at 75 cents a plate. Reservations must be made with Mrs. T. F. Borden, 1161-B Park Ave., Alameda—phone LAkehurst 2-5553—by Monday night, January 15. The morning speaker will be the Rev. Fred R. Morrow, and his topic will be "If it were you." There will be two afternoon speakers: Rev. Vere V. Loper, on the subject "With the GI's in the Aleutians," and Rev. Noel J. Breed, on "Dumbarton Oaks: What it accomplished and what it means for the cause of peace." Rev. Robert W. Inglis will have the worship service, and the election and installation of officers will be held about noon.

There was no meeting of the Federation in December, but judging from the reports that have come in from the Associations, the various societies have been just a little busier than usual.

Shall we begin with one of the smallest? Pescadero has just recently had its church rebuilt and rededicated after a serious fire. The insurance did not cover all the necessary repairs, so the Ladies' Guild, composed of some eight or ten members, instead of bemoaning their fate, have gone to work to raise the necessary amount. Already a bazaar and a food sale have brought in enough to repair a small hallway and put needed cabinets in the kitchen. The Guild president, Mrs. J. E. Mygrants, says the church is composed of many willing workers and that the new members coming into the community are taking hold with enthusiasm, but she admits it has been a struggle at times to keep going. No one, however, is discouraged. Nor is the interest of this little church self-centered. Mrs. C. L. Jackson, Association president, reports that they contributed $5.00 to the memorial fund for Miss Maryette Lum.

Sebastopol has been equally busy, with a Thank Offering service, the furnishing of cakes for the Christmas party to the Coast Guard boys at Bodega Bay, the visiting of their own sick and shut-ins, with fir boughs and red candles to cheer them, and what sounded like a particularly attractive program, featuring the exhibit of antiques and the singing of old-time songs, during which the characters, such as Nelly Gray, Sweet Alice, and others, came out dressed in beautiful old gowns. Through this and their Thank Offering, they raised over eighty dollars. Good work, Sebastopol!

Paradise always comes through, whether it is in the reading list contest or in charitable work. This time Mrs. H. N. Dyke, Association president, reports that they gathered over 650 pounds of clothing (731 garments) for the UNRRA and also helped in the Outdoor Recreation Project for their own young people. Mrs. E. T. Sherman, Association president of Upper Bay, reports for Rio Vista a most successful Harvest Festival tea, which crowded their social hall until even standing room was at a premium. They had a fashion show given by a group of little people, none over six years old. Among many things offered for sale were dish towels—a whole tableful of them. In all, their tea brought in over $500.

Mrs. W. H. Hillman, Association president for San Joaquin, wrote almost breathlessly of the many activities in her district. Porterville women have finished paying off the debt on their social hall, and took a special Christmas offering for War Victims. Fresno First had a large luncheon and program for their Thank Offering, with an unusually large contribution. They sponsored a Sunday night forum with lecture and colored pictures. In December they presented a Christmas pageant: "Star of the East." Fresno Armenian (hold your breath!) by various means raised $925.00 for food and medicines for the Armenians in Greece! Tulare women have given dinners, rummage sales, and bazaars to add to their church building fund, and have also contributed clothing for the refugees. They are enthusiastic over plans for next year.

Our Reading List chairman, Mrs. Philip Greisinger, will be pleased with the report which comes from Mrs. B. W. Thomas of Lodi. They are using the study books to good advantage. They have several copies of both the Home and Foreign books. These are passed out among the women to read at home, after which there are occasional discussions of the books at the women's meetings. The society subscribes for 25 copies of The Pacific, which are distributed at the meetings. Lodi also does some especially fine work for the service men. There is a committee of three ladies who keep in touch with the 73 men and women in the service, and before Christmas they mailed a fruit cake to each of these. They have heard from both European and Pacific areas that the cakes were received in perfect condition. The women contribute to the Church Service Men's Emergency Fund which is to be used for those who may need help when they return. This is a unique service as far as your editor's knowledge goes.

Almost without exception all our women are doing their bit for those who do so much for us. Broadmoor had gifts for San Leandro Navy Hospital laid under the Christmas tree at the foot of the altar. The Sacramento church provided Christmas boxes for the various hospitals for service men. At Rio Vista, a Christmas party was held at which every one was expected to bring a gift for a service man. Ripon has sent Christmas "ditty bags" to Hammond Hospital. Besides all these, there is, of course, the regular work of all the churches for the Red Cross, USO, and similar organizations.

As was reported in the last Pacific, the Thank Offering rolled up like a snowball, but as the letters came in this month about the gains, your editor was thrilled anew. Frequent use has been made of the Thank Offering programs in both **Guide Posts** and **Program Suggestions.** Leaders were enthusiastic over the beauty and impressiveness of the service. All reports stressed the financial gains: "the largest offering we have ever had," "more than double that of last year," so ran the happy chorus. Ripon does one thing no other church has reported. They are thankful twice a year! They have a Fall service and a Spring service. The two this year brought in $100. "We have never had so much before."

"THE BARN"

This large barn at Cazadero will one day be recreation hall. Next summer it will serve as boys' dorm. Behind it, a beautiful natural amphitheater.

WE DARE NOT BE SELFISH

"We are living at a time when man is destroying the natural wealth of the world, his own savings, his cities, his institutions, and his traditions with reckless disregard of the consequences. Therefore, the rest of our lives will have to be spent mainly with works of reconstruction, many of them of a purely material kind, others of the more intangible values. . . . Our interests, tasks, and aims now have to be big, impersonal, remote. Whether we would have chosen it or not, we are having to be faithful in things that come to us as the concern of other men than ourselves. History today simply will not allow us to live selfish lives with our own affairs as our center of interest."—From "Rebuilding Our World," by Willard L. Sperry.—

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW. A hundred and fifty parents and young people crowded the sanctuary to witness a pageant by the Pilgrim Fellowship and to enjoy the Sunday School program. The choir presented several numbers at an installation meeting of the Eastern Star. Rev. Eugene Sill is pastor.

CLOVERDALE. New teachers and increased attendance in the Sunday School are noted. The young people's work is gratifying. Roofs of church and parsonage and other repairs have been cared for. Rev. W. R. Haselden is pastor.

SHAVER TO COME

Christian Education leaders are looking forward expectantly to the visit of Rev. Erwin L. Shaver of the Division of Christian Education, Boston. He will be visiting and supervising the Weekday Religious Education projects in various centers, and meeting with our Congregational church school teachers in each area, both on the same trip. The tentative schedule below includes appointments of both kinds.

SHAVER SCHEDULE

February 24, Oroville; Feb. 25, Sacramento; Feb. 26, Vallejo and Martinez; Feb. 27, San Francisco; Feb. 28, Stockton; March 1, Fresno; Mar. 2, Porterville; Mar. 3-4, San Jose; Mar. 5, Oakland; Mar. 6-8, Berkeley (Pastoral Conference); Mar. 9, Marin County; Eureka (Mar. 10, Eureka); Mar. 11, Petaluma.

RALLIES FOR TEACHERS

Christian teachers need the stimulus and enthusiasm implied by the term "rallies." It is hoped that every teacher in every Church School will have a chance to share in these area meetings, which will provide inspiration and fellowship, as well as instruction in the art of teaching and Church School promotion. The team of leaders will include Dr. Shaver and Field Secretary Meyer, with others in different areas.

Cazadero Campsite Sunday, February 11th. Save it!

Annual Meeting California Council of Churches

The annual dinner and meeting of the Northern California Council of Churches will be held in Berkeley on March 5th, just on the eve of the Pastoral Conference. Rev. Erwin L. Shaver, of the Congregational Department of Christian Education and director of Weekday Religious Education of the International Council of Religious Education, will be the speaker. Announcement will be made later of the place of meeting and cost of dinner.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

CHAPEL OF THE CHIMES
4499 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland
Do you want Information
About Cremation?
About Niches?
It's free on any request
Meditation and Inspirational Study cards are also available—free!
Cremation Service $45